ANNUAL CONVENTION NUMBER

THE U.F.A.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF

THE UNITED FARMERS of ALBERTA

Vol. IV. CALGARY, ALBERTA, FEBRUARY 2, 1925 No. 4

Central Board of the U.F.A. for 1925

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Third Row, left to right—H. C. McDaniel, Whitla (Medicine Hat); A. Rafa, Bon Accord (Athabasca); A. F. Aitken, Meyerton (Battle River); W. F. Bredin, Bredin (Peace River North); S. Luna, Pincher Creek; G. E. Reese, Cardston (Cardston); Donald Sinclair, Valcan (Bow River).

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Urge Amendment o Bankruptcy Act

Convention Demands Means Be Take to Enable Experienced Farmers to Remain in Province

The resolution printed below, calling f amendments to the Bankruptcy Act to en able farmers to take advantage of its pro visions, was adopted by the U. F. A. Annua Convention on Friday, January 23rd. It w be remembered that, primarily through th efforts of a number of Alberta member the Banking and Commerce Committee o the House of Commons recommended sev ral amendments last session, but the Gov ernment did not provide time for thei consideration.

The Convention resolution reads:

Whereas, a very considerable numbe of Alberta farmers have through drough and other causes become hopelessly in volved in debt beyond all possibility o repayment, and,

Whereas, under present conditions these men and their families are being forced to leave the Province and the country in order to get a chance to make a living from under the pressure of their creditors while the Government is meanwhile spending money in inducing inexperienced settlers to come into the Province to make a living where these more experienced farmers have failed, and,

Whereas, we consider it both wise and expedient that these settlers be given an opportunity of making a fresh start and remaining within the Province.

Be it therefore resolved, that this Convention urge upon Parliament to pass the following amendments to the Bankruptcy Act at the coming session:

(a) That in order to keep down excessive costs in these Provinces where there are or may be appointed Debt Adjustment Commissioners, such Commissioners be appointed Trustees in Bankruptcy to handle farmers' assignments at nominal fees, such costs to be a first charge on the assets involved.

(b) That farmers be exempt from the provisions of clause (a) of Section 59 under which if the assets of the estate do not equal fifty per cent. of his unsecured liabilities the judge may refuse a discharge.

(c) That farmers be also exempt from the provisions of clause (b) of Section 59 requiring the keeping of books of account by the debtor for three years immediately preceding the bankruptcy or the making of the assignment.

(d) That such amendments to this Act be brought into force in the various Provinces of Canada only on proclamation of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council for the Province, thereby allowing any Province wishing to be excluded to remain outside the operation of these amendments.

TOTAL WHEAT YIELD IN 1924

The total yield of wheat in Canada for the year 1924 is finally estimated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at 262,097,000 bushels, from 22,935,716 acres, as compared with 474,198,000 bushels from 22,671,884 acres in 1923 and with 328,253,549 bushels from 21,142,324 acres, the average for the five years 1919 to 1923. The average yield per acre for all wheat in 1924 was 11.9 bushels, as compared with 21 bushels in 1923 and 15.4 bushels, the average for the five years 1919 to 1923.

CRUSH OF SENATOR WHITE

In the article on the fight for amendments to the Bank Act, published on page four of the issue of January 15th, it was stated that R. E. White, who received an honorarium for the preparation of a pamphlet for the Canadian Bankers' Association, was a "brother" of Senator Smeaton White. This should have read "cousin." The amount of the honorarium was $14,000, not "$10,000" as printed.

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EDITORIAL

OFFICERS OF THE UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA FOR THE YEAR 1925

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Ex-Officio

Mrs. F. S. Wyman, Balmoral Mrs. J. W. Field, Widewater

THE ANNUAL CONVENTION

In no previous Convention of the United Farmers of Alberta have the spirit of unity, the desire for full discussion of all issues brought forward, and for concentration on constructive policies been more apparent than in the Seventeenth Convention held in Calgary last month. In spite of the still excessively large number of resolutions submitted for consideration, there were few which did not receive adequate discussion, and there was an all-pervading tolerance which made for efficiency in debate.

The reports presented to the Convention revealed steady progress made during the past year in the development of co-operative marketing enterprises. Today there is no existing need in Alberta for discussion of the principles of co-operative marketing, and the delegates' interest centred in the practical measures by which these principles may be applied with success. The Convention will undoubtedly stimulate activity throughout the Province in support of the new Pooling undertakings.

The U. F. A. members of the House of Commons came to a decision which the Convention endorsed, affirming their solidarity as a legislative group. The delegates expressed their confidence in the sincerity of these representatives, and defined with greater clearness the principles of political action laid down by the Conventions of 1919 and 1920.

At no other Convention of recent years has there been closer attention to business. The delegates declined to abandon any of the business sessions and there was little thinning of the ranks up to the time of the adjournment.

* * *

The reports of the Annual Convention commenced in this issue will be continued in "The U.F.A." of February 15th. In the current number two of the most important features of the Convention have been dealt with at some length, and a partial record of the daily proceedings is given. We regret that it has been necessary to hold over a number of important letters, as well as news of Locals and District Associations.

* * *

Any sound policy for Canada must aim first to retain in this country those who are already here. Every dollar spent in making conditions sufficiently attractive to retain settlers who have experience of our conditions, but have been victims of the recent policy of deflation, or of drought conditions, will be worth more to the country than any sum which can be sent in "Painting Canada in attractive colors", for the purpose of inducing new settlers to come.

* * *

"HASTY" ACTION AND SECOND THOUGHTS

The storm of protest and condemnation aroused by the character of the recent British ultimatum to Egypt has apparently not been without some effect. Austen Chamberlain, Minister of Foreign Affairs, has apologetically admitted that the action taken was "hasty"—a strong term in the language of diplomacy, and exceptionally so when applied to an action, sanctioned by his own department, which created strained relations with friendly powers and might well have involved Great Britain, and contingently Canada, in serious international complications.

Not only has this admission been made, but one of the most aggressively commercial features of the ultimatum has been modified. The ultimatum to which the Egyptian Government was compelled to submit included, among other requirements, a demand that Egypt should surrender all rights in the waters of the Nile, upon which the economic life of the country depends. The publication of these terms caused the shares in the Sudan cotton syndicate in which men prominent in public and business life in Britain are heavily interested, to soar to high figures. The fact that Egypt might not actually be deprived of adequate water for crop production is beside the point. The right to this supply was denied. Objection in particular to this demand was raised in the press of every foreign friendly state, and by large and disinterested sections of the British public.

Mr. Chamberlain finally announced in the British House of Commons: "The requirement of an unlimited supply of the Nile water for the irrigation of the Gezira was withdrawn, and a joint board is to be set up, representing Great Britain and Egypt, under a neutral chairman, to decide how much water can be spared for this purpose without affecting Egyptian needs."

* * *

We do not believe that the best interests of Canada, or of the British people themselves, can be served by suppressing criticism based on essential facts, of policies which might lead to serious consequences for both.

Egypt, it is true, is many thousands of miles from Canada. But if action taken many thousands of miles away should at any time involve the Dominion in international difficulties, distance might quickly be obliterated.

It was stated in the press that the terms of the ultimatum had the approval of the Dominion Governments. We have the best of reasons for stating that so far as Canada was concerned, such was not the case, and it might be (though this we do not know), that the attitude of this Dominion exerted a not entirely negligible influence on the British Foreign Office.

(Continued on page 18)

Annual Convention Unanimously Urges Early Completion of the Work of Organizing Co-operative Pools

Offers Continued Assistance and Influence of the U. F. A. in Furtherance of Marketing Plans — Proposes Remuneration of Primary Organization for at Least Amount Involved in Launching Commercial Enterprises and Assisting Them When Established—Pool Discussion Feature of Wednesday's Session

Expressing approval of the action taken to carry into-effect the resolution of January, 1924, calling for the creation of new co-operative marketing undertakings, the U. F. A. annual Convention this year unanimously urged the boards of the Livestock, Poultry and Dairy Pools to bring the new Pools into operation at the earliest possible date, and pledged the assistance of the organization in making the Pools successful.

ENTIRELY LEGITIMATE PROPOSAL TO POOLS

The afternoon devoted to the subject of co-operative marketing was one of the most profitable of Convention week, and, judging by the tone of the discussion, and the spirit displayed by the delegates, the plan of the new marketing associations has been most favorably received everywhere, and the membership of the U. F. A. will enter with enthusiasm into the work of organization.

The new Pools which are being brought into being as the result of the educational and organizational work of the U. F. A. will be asked to remunerate the Association to an amount at least as great as the outlay necessary in launching the enterprises and assisting them when they have been established.

Speaking in support of the resolution in which such remuneration is asked, Herbert Spencer of McCafferty Local pointed out that the U. F. A. had been the pioneer of all the co-operative marketing undertakings, that it had been fighting for their establishment for years and that all farmers, whether members of the U. F. A. or not, obtained the benefits resulting from these efforts of the organization. The U. F. A. had wiped out its deficit in 1924, it was true, but it had been able to do so because the President had accepted no salary, while organization work had been largely suspended. The proposal contained in the resolution was entirely legitimate, said Mr. Spencer, and provided a very satisfactory way of meeting the heavy outlays incurred by the Association in promoting co-operative marketing enterprise.

The report of the Co-operative Marketing Committee of the U. F. A., presented by the chairman, S. S. Sears, outlined the various steps taken during the year to carry into effect the mandate of last year's Convention. The committee consisted originally of Mrs. H. E. G. H. Scholefield and Messrs. S. Lunn, A. R. Brown and S. S. Sears, who set to work immediately after last year's Convention to gather statistics and make a careful survey of the field.

On February 15th the committee met the Co-operative Marketing Committee of the Provincial Government, and "after a very thorough discussion Mr. Brownlee stated that in his opinion it would be much better . . postpone further action in view of the fact that no suitable legislation existed by which satisfactory incorporation could take place, and the Government were going to bring down a new Co-operative Marketing Act under which commodity co-operatives could incorporate on a satisfactory basis. He further stated that he would be willing to give whatever assistance was necessary to work out the details of the different marketing associations on a Pool basis, as the demand arose and the volume of these commodities was sufficient to carry the overhead.

"The Co-operative Marketing Act," the report continued, "was not passed until along towards Spring. The session of the Legislature did not close until April, and as the work on the land had already commenced it was thought inadvisable to go ahead at that time."

A report was made to the Central Board in July, and on recommendation of the Committee its membership was brought up to the full strength of seven by the addition of Messrs. A. B. Claypool, Nelson Smith and R. A. Van Slyke.

CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS ALREADY BEING MADE

"In the meantime, however," the report stated, "considerable progress was being made in co-operative thought and endeavor throughout the Province, accounted for by several splendid articles in 'The U. F. A.' Consequently producers themselves were calling meetings and committees were being appointed to prosecute more vigorously the work of organization.

"In view of this fact the Co-operative Marketing Committee, at a meeting held in July had a very thorough discussion as to the best policy to pursue in order that overlapping might be avoided by the different co-operative committees in the field."

The report then outlined the action taken at Lacombe on July 31st, when a Provincial Livestock Board was appointed; the creation of a Provisional Board for the Dairy Pool; the completion by the Marketing Committee of details of organization of the Poultry Pool in accordance with the resolution of last year's U. F. W. A. Convention; the decision to launch a joint membership campaign for the three Pools, and the distribution, through the Co-operative Marketing number of "The U. F. A." of copies of each of the contracts to the farmers. "This edition was mailed to approximately 47,000 farmers and created widespread interest," the report continued. "Since then numerous contracts have been returned signed up and showing a fine spirit of co-operation on the part of the farmers of this Province."

FORTUNATE IN BROWNLEE'S JUDICIOUS COUNSEL

After reviewing the rapid progress made by the co-operative marketing movement in the United States, the report expressed thanks for valuable assistance freely given by officials and members of the Wheat Pool, and appreciation of "the splendid spirit of co-operation shown by the Marketing Committee of the Provincial Government and the Attorney General and his department. We were exceedingly fortunate in having the experience and judicious counsel of Mr. Brownlee, recognized as one of the foremost authorities on co-operative marketing on this continent. Without this assistance, the formation of these Pools would have been much more difficult, and could not have proceeded with the confidence and assurance that they did."

The report concluded with one word of warning. The greatest danger lay "in too ambitious beginnings, too eager expectations, which breed early disappointments and discouragement, with the consequence that some dissatisfaction is bound to be expressed by those who are impatient to show sensational results. Keeping these things in mind it is the supreme duty of those who are desirous of giving a permanence and prosperity hitherto unknown to the agricultural life of this country, to get behind this movement and do all in our power to elevate agriculture to its rightful place — the most cherished occupation on God's footstool."

Convention Resolutions on the New Pools

The following resolutions were adopted unanimously by the Annual Convention on Jan. 21st:

1. After hearing the plans of organization outlined by the different Provisional Boards of the different Co-operative Pools now being organized on instructions received at last year's Convention, and being of the opinion that these Pools will be of material benefit to the producers in this Province.

Therefore be it resolved, that we urge these Boards to bring the Pools into existence as soon as possible, and offer our assistance and influence in procuring the necessary number of contracts to ensure the successful operation of these Pools.

REMUNERATION FROM POOLS

2. Whereas, the U. F. A. is the birthplace of all the farmers' commercial enterprises, and,

Whereas, to launch these enterprises is a big drain on the treasury of the U. F. A., and,

Whereas, non-members receive equal advantages from these enterprises as members do;

Therefore be it resolved, that the U. F. A. ask remuneration from these commercial enterprises to the amount of at least the money involved in launching same and helping out the enterprises after once being established.

STEVENS ON PLANS OF LIVESTOCK POOL

An exhaustive and valuable report on the Livestock Pool, containing much valuable information on the plans of the Provisional Board, on the means by which success may be achieved by the Pool, was delivered by W. F. Stevens, Secretary of the Pool. Mr. Stevens, who is recognized as an outstanding authority on livestock matters and livestock markets, pointed out that "the selling strength of an organization varies according to the extent to which it controls the annual available output of the commodity which it handles," but that this was subject to the condition that "all parties get an equal percentage of the different grades of animals offered for sale." If one firm got the bulk of the inferior, the firm that handled the better animals would exercise the greater influence on the market and have the greater selling strength. "Hence," said Mr. Stevens, "a large amount of co-operative effort will have to be carried on between the central organization and the contract signers to the end that the number of animals marketed by the organization and classed as 'good' shall at least equal the number classed as 'fair' or 'common'."

Mr. Stevens urged all persons interested in the Pool to ascertain first the districts in which they belong, and the names and addresses of the organizing directors for these districts, and then to consult the directors.

ACTIVE CAMPAIGN FOR THE DAIRY POOL

In the course of a short talk on the Dairy Pool, N. S. Smith, M.L.A., said that the location of creameries and the business of these plants were not the concern of the Pool for the moment, except that the larger the volume of the sign-up the more effective would be the organization in securing better prices for the producers. The co-operative Pool would stimulate an even more rapid advancement than had been recorded of late in the quality of cream produced and butter manufactured. Mr. Smith announced that an active campaign to secure signatures for the Dairy Pool contract would be launched immediately following the Convention. Demands had been received from practically every corner of the Province for further work to be done, and if these formed any criterion, there could be "no doubt as to the result of the sign-up campaign."

"The Provisional Board," he said, "have tried to carry out the instructions of the Convention of 1924, have tried to deal with the subject on sound economic principles, and to be conservative in their statements, so that the producers will not believe that they are reaching forward to get a cold brick through the co-operative marketing of the dairy product. As a Provisional Board we cannot do more than direct the sign-up campaign. As a Convention you can be responsible for a successful sign-up campaign or otherwise as you determine. If you are a member of a local district Association, get behind your district association and put over the drive in that territory. If you are a member of a U. F. A. Local go back to the Local and discuss the proposition and assist in the campaign.

"Co-operation is like a ship—sails better with all sails filled. Unlike the ordinary ship, however, it takes more than wind to make the ship of co-operation move forward. Besides, many a ship has been driven on the rocks because of too much air, both hot and cold."

MRS. SCHOLEFIELD REPORTS ON DAIRY POOL

Mrs. H. E. C. H. Scholefield, convener of Marketing of the U. F. W. A., in reporting to the Joint Convention, said in part: "I feel that there are two points of outstanding interest I want to make, the first being that notwithstanding the cold water thrown on our suggestion and resolution of last year, we have an Egg and Poultry Pool which, although not yet functioning, is in existence. . . . The second item I wish to draw attention to is the improvement in the quality and quantity of our produce. This does not mean that we can afford to let up on our improvement—we must go ever on and on to better things, in egg production as in everything else. The number of birds on the farms is increasing yearly. The available records now show about 7,214,819 birds (6,442,216 of these being fowl), at a value estimated at $4,488,040. The number of birds estimated in 1921 was 4,963,565, each year since showing roughly one million increase. In the number of poultry on the farms in Canada, Alberta stands second best, only exceeded by British Columbia." The average per farm for Canada, said Mrs. Scholefield, was 63.9, and for Alberta alone 79.9, and British Columbia 98.7.

Stating that the estimated number of egg producing hens on the farms in Alberta was 4,840,000, and the yearly production 72, at an average price of 29 cents per dozen, the speaker estimated the value of the egg crop at $5,796,000, while the value of the live poultry crop was estimated at $780,000, a total of $6,576,000.

SUCCESSFUL EGG POOLS IN OTHER PROVINCES

Mrs. Scholefield stated that the efforts being made in co-operative marketing in Alberta were being watched closely in Saskatchewan, and that an inter-Provincial Pool might be the outcome. The Egg Pool in Manitoba, as far as could be gathered, had been most successful, and Saskatchewan and Ontario producers had reaped substantial benefits from their Pools.

The report dealt further with the progress of the dairy industry, and pointed out that there are now about 180 beekeepers in the Province, with a production in 1924 of nearly 60,000 lbs., worth nearly $15,000.

CONTRACT SYSTEM WOULD HELP WOOL GROWER

"If ten thousand sheep owners were under contract for the sale of their 1925 crop we should be able to sell to much better advantage," declared Manager Tisdale of the Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers, at the close of an address in which he reviewed the marked successes achieved by the Wool Growers in spite of the fact that the contract system is not now in operation.

Since 1921, said Mr. Tisdale, the sheep population of Canada had fallen off by a million head, and the wool production by 67,000,000 lbs. In the period from 1917 to 1919, men who shipped through the Company made from 10 to 25 cents a pound more than those who sold in other ways. Then, in 1920 and 1921, prices "tobogganed." The average price in 1918 was 60 cents and ran up to a dollar, while the average of 1920-21 was only 18 cents. Some of the members at the end of these seasons owed their Company money, and one man, who had found himself in debt to the Company to the tune of $7, had been fighting it ever since, thereby losing much larger sums in subsequent years by not staying with the Company, selling his wool for 18 cents, when his neighbors', sold co-operatively, brought 26½ cents.

Mr. Tisdale said that from 3,000,000 to 4,000,000 lbs. of wool per year were now handled by the Company, half of it being sold in Canada, where, owing to the breaking down of prejudice, it was now demanded extensively by our own manufacturers. Grade for grade, choice Canadian wool now stood on an equality with Australian, South American or South African wool.

All Plans Completed for Organization of the Poultry Pool

Meeting on January 26th Arranges Details of Drive—Pool First Sponsored by U.F.W.A.

> In the following article dealing with the organization of the Alberta Poultry Pool, Mrs. Wyman states that the Pool Board are depending upon the farm women to do everything possible to facilitate the organization of the new enterprise. Large numbers of block contracts are now in the hands of U. F. A. members, and additional contracts will be sent upon request. The head office of the Pool is at 216 Lougheed Building, Calgary.

The Board of the Alberta Co-operative Poultry Producers, Ltd., met on January 26th, 1925, and completed arrangements for the organization work of the Pool.

The Board consists of S. S. Sears, Nanton, Chairman; Mrs. H. E. C. H. Scholefield, Crossfield, Vice-Chairman; Mrs. F. E. Wyman, Braintree, Secretary-Treasurer; and the directors, A. B. Claypool, M.L.A., Swalwell; N. S. Smith, M.L.A., Olds; A. R. Brown, Westlock, and H. C. McDaniel, Whitla.

Because of other pressing business, Stephen Lunn, of Pincher Creek, resigned from the Board, and H. C. McDaniel, Whitla, was elected in his place.

The Province has been divided up into seven districts to correspond with the number of members on the board. Each member has been allotted a certain district, and he is to take charge of the organization of that district.

The Dairy Pool members are using the same districts. The Livestock Pool districts are different, being organized as to shipping points. Wherever possible the directors of all three Pools are working advantageously together, each one talking all three Pools, and procuring signed contracts for the three Pools at one time. In this way the districts will be covered more quickly and efficiently and at the least possible expense.

As the directors will be busy in the country organizing, it was thought ad-

(Continued on page 17)

Unity and Concentration on Problems of Immediate Practical Importance, Features of Seventeenth Annual Convention

Good Financial Position of Organization and Increasing Membership Shown in Statements for 1924—Delegates Anticipate Increased Activities in All Branches of Association in 1925

Dealing in a spirit of tolerance and fairness and goodwill with all the subjects under discussion, and displaying an unwavering determination to pass from present accomplishments in the field of economic and political reconstruction to greater things, the 486 delegates who participated in the Seventeenth Annual Convention of the United Farmers of Alberta, in the Central Methodist Church, Calgary, from January 20th to 23rd, disposed of every one of the resolutions in the program and with every item of business brought before them. If the number of resolutions submitted is still somewhat too large to ensure in the four days' sessions lengthy discussion of all, no subject brought before the Convention was dealt with lightly, and the major questions which came under review were most thoughtfully considered and debated.

ORGANIZATION OF POOLS NEW PRACTICAL TASK

The Convention unanimously renewed its expression of faith in the principle of co-operative marketing, and pledged the Association to the practical task of assisting in the organization of the new Pools for the launching of which the U. F. A. is primarily responsible. Through the action, in the first place, of the Federal members themselves, the solidarity of the U. F. A. group at Ottawa was affirmed. The position of the organization as a group in active politics, and the relationships of the various units were more specifically defined, in a resolution which interpreted and amplified the resolutions of 1919 and 1920. An important resolution on financial reform which will be dealt with elsewhere, was adopted. The Convention expressed its desire for the closest co-operation with organized Labor. The directorates of the U. F. A. were reorganized, in order to meet, in the most satisfactory way, the new situation created by the redistribution of the Federal constituencies.

For the efficient manner in which the Convention business was disposed of a large share of credit is due to the chairmen, Messrs. Gardiner, Garland and Critchlow, who combined impartiality and fairness with an evident determination to discourage premature decisions, and to allow full scope for free debate.

EVERY FARMER SHOULD JOIN THE U. F. A.

Promptly at 10 a.m. on January 20th, President Wood called the Convention to order, and after the singing of "O Canada," and the invocation by Rev. H. W. Avison, an address of welcome was delivered by Lieutenant-Governor Brett, who declared that the increasing membership in the organization was evidence of the "splendid spirit of the people of Alberta." The Lieutenant-Governor commended the co-operative marketing movement, and the work which the U. F. A. had done and was doing to further it. "I can see no reason why every farmer in Alberta should not join this Association," he declared.

U. F. A. MEMBERSHIP INCREASES IN 1924

As this issue goes to press the membership for 1924 stands at 15,481, but as dues for last year are still being received, final figures will not be available for some time to come. The total membership for 1923 was 14,686.

Premier Greenfield said that to be present at the U. F. A. Convention was "like home coming" to him. As an aggressive unit in the farmers' movement, the U. F. A. had been of real benefit to Canada as a whole, and had done much to create in this country an intelligent public opinion. The value of its work could not be measured in dollars and cents alone. It sought real progress based on sound reason, without regard to passion or prejudice. To teach the people to do their own thinking was the most valuable work the U. F. A. could accomplish.

That the co-operative marketing of grain was now firmly established in practice was almost entirely due to the farmers' organizations, said the Premier, and there was reason to be proud that Alberta had led the way.

"I do not think we need be ashamed of our political effort," said the Premier. "I believe it was worth while and will continue to be worth while."

Mayor Webster extended the heartiest good wishes of the people of Calgary to the delegates and visitors and wished the Convention success.

GARDINER MAIN CHAIRMAN OF CONVENTION

On recommendation of the Board the Convention agreed that one chairman and two assistant chairmen should be elected, and Messrs. Robert Gardiner, M.P., R. J. Garland, M.P., and G. L. McPherson, M.L.A., were nominated. Mr. McPherson withdrawing, Mr. Gardiner was elected chairman, and additional nominations for vice-chairmen were Messrs. R. Cates, H. MacKenzie, Col. Robinson, George MacLachlan, M.L.A., and H. Critchlow. Upon the first four withdrawing, Messrs. Garland and Critchlow were declared the vice-chairmen. H. E. G. H. Scholefield, Vice-President, acted as the Convention Secretary.

NOW THE U. F. A. DIRECTORATES ARE REDISTRIBUTED

At the Annual Convention, directorates in the U. F. A. were changed to conform in a general way with the new Federal Constituencies. Instead of twelve directors there are now fifteen.

By Constitutional Amendment it was provided that one director should be elected from each of the new Federal Constituencies, with the exception of Peace River, East and West Calgary, and East and West Edmonton.

Peace River is divided into two directorates, owing to the great extent of the territory, the boundary between "Peace River North" and "Peace River South" being the northern boundary of Township 86.

The two Calgary Constituencies are combined under one directorate, and the same plan is followed in respect to the two Edmonton Constituencies.

Convention committees were appointed as follows: Credentials, J. C. Buckley, M.L.A., G. E. Roose, J. K. Sutherland; Resolutions, I. D. Taylor, J. P. Watson, S. J. Ewing; Order of Business, S. Lunn, A. F. Aitken, A. R. Brown; Redrafting Committee, W. J. Jackman, with power to add.

In his Annual Address, which is published in full in this issue, President Wood reviewed the progress made in co-operative marketing, and discussed briefly the political situation. The address was received with great applause.

PERMANENT BASES OF CIVILIZATION

"Looking back over the work of our organization for 1924, we are impressed with the very marked growth in stability, in definiteness of purpose, and in conscious group activity," declared Mrs. R. R. Gunn, President of the U. F. W. A., in the course of a very fine and eloquent address in which she dealt upon the work of the past year and plans for the future. "In the final analysis," said Mrs. Gunn, "the permanence and progress of civilization depend on the mental calibre and physique of its citizenry." Pointing out that the problem of racial improvement is not a simple one, since it is inextricably bound up with the elimination of poverty and war, which are fruitful sources of racial deterioration, she suggested that the obviously feeble minded should be supervised and protected with a view to the weeding out of undesirable strains.

Mrs. Gunn laid emphasis on the importance of quality in immigration, and declared that the public weal rather than the interests of steamship and transportation companies, should be the first consideration in immigration regulations. She laid emphasis on the importance of Junior work, and made a special plea for the help of all U. F. A. members in the coming year in bringing a greater number of women into active work in the organization, either in the U. F. A. itself or in the women's section.

SEEKING TO UNDERSTAND CAUSES OF WAR

Speaking of the world situation, Mrs. Gunn said that while on the surface affairs presented a scene of indescribable confusion, "and it would appear that the welter of war from which we have just emerged was but the forerunner of greater evils to come," encouragement and hope were to be found in the strong determination manifest among the people "to understand the underlying causes of war, in order to remove them," and in the efforts being made to promote international friendship.

"As the older statesmen, with their di-

plomacy and strategy, pass away," Mrs. Gunn concluded. "we can envision Sir James Barrie's future when more youthful minds with their larger friendships guide affairs, and 'with their vision the old earth and the old humanity, of selfishness, and prejudice, and hate, may pass away'."

ABLE ADDRESS ON THE JUNIOR BRANCH

A very able report on the work of the Junior Branch was presented by Donald Cameron, Jr., the President, who said that the more active interest taken by the seniors in this branch of the organization was most encouraging to those who were endeavoring to build up an effective farm young people's organization in Alberta. "Unless we have the active co-operation of all the parents," he said, "we are not going to achieve the maximum results."

Mr. Cameron believed that the Junior Branch was stronger and more vigorous than at any previous time since its formation, in spite of the fact that its numerical strength might not be so great as in some former years, due in large measure to the adverse economic conditions which the people on the farms had experienced. The educational value of University Week was emphasized and the Junior President pointed out that "the economic group is the foundation stone of our organization; upon that basis we find the community of interests common to all who earn their living in the profession of agriculture, and upon that basis we arrive at the common goal that will eventually unite all members of the farming class wholly regardless of their political opinions and prejudices."

ASSOCIATION SURPLUS $649.52 IN 1924

Following the adoption of the report of the Central Board, financial statements were presented. For the financial year ending November 30th, the revenue statement showed a surplus of $649.52. Dues paid during the year totalled $25,988.47, including $21,571.32 from U. F. A. Locals, $2,045 from U. F. W. A. Locals, $12 from women in U. F. A. Locals, $58.95 from Juniors in U. F. A. Locals, $241.20 from Junior Locals, $45 from members at large, and $85 Life Membership fees. In addition to these the substantial sum of $6,319.65 was received in payment of arrears of dues for years prior to 1924. The grant from the United Grain Growers totalled $4,772.25. For the rent of equipment to "The U. F. A." official organ of the Association, a charge of $534 was made.

The statement indicated general expense of the Association was $4,193.90, the expense of U. F. A. Executive meetings held during the year being $271.60; of U. F. A. Board meetings, $1,787.25; of U. F. W. A. Executive meetings, $354.20; of U. F. W. A. Board meetings, $1,050.15. President Wood had not accepted his salary from the organization during the past year, there being an item of $687.50 for President's expenses only, and an item of $115.20 for expenses of the President of the U. F. W. A.

Organization expenses totalled $2,586.67, and expenses of the various committees, $1,203.74, the largest item being $782.90 by the Co-operative Marketing Committee. Central Office expenses totalled $3,876.62, and salaries $6,013.40.

In the Life Membership Fund there was shown a sum of $2,924.91, and a reserve to take care of organization expense accounts totalled $3,175.88.

U. F. A. CENTRAL BOARD COMMITTEES FOR 1925

Co-operative Marketing — E. Lunn, H. C. McDaniel, Mrs. J. W. Field.

Education—Mrs. R. B. Gunn, A. E. Brown, Hugh F. Spencer.

Transportation—H. E. G. H. Scholefield, W. F. Bredin, E. R. Rasmussen.

Grain Marketing—S. S. Sears, S. J. Ewing, C. Jensen. (To confer with W. J. Jackman.)

Banking and Credit—G. Bevington, A. F. Aitken, J. K. Sutherland, Ira D. Taylor.

Central Office—H. E. G. H. Scholefield, Mrs. F. E. Wyman, S. J. Ewing.

Livestock and Chilled Meats—G. E. Rouse, A. Rafn, G. Storie.

Newspaper—H. W. Wood, H. E. G. H. Scholefield, W. N. Smith.

Commerce and Agriculture—H. W. Wood.

Taxation—G. H. Biggs, S. Sinclair, H. O. Braden.

Senior Committee Junior Branch—Mrs. R. B. Gunn, H. E. G. H. Scholefield.

A question was asked by H. MacKenzie in reference to an item of $50 to William Irvine, M.P., Mr. Scholefield replying that Mr. Irvine at great personal expense had devoted many weeks of his time in assisting in a membership drive last winter, which had been of great value to the Association, and that this item was to reimburse him for a portion of the expense incurred. Delegates from many parts of the Province spoke of the splendid service Mr. Irvine had freely given to the Association.

On motion of Col. Robinson of Munson, a vote of appreciation to the President and Board "for the very careful and efficient manner in which they had carried on the business of the Association during the past year" was unanimously adopted.

The revenue statement of "The U. F. A.," the official organ of the Association, showed a surplus of $506.86 on the twenty-four regular issues, after setting aside reserve. No provision for the financing of the extra weekly numbers called for by the Convention last year, to provide adequate reports of the session of the Legislature, had been made by the Convention, and the cost of these was accordingly provided for in the revenue statement of the Association.

SECRETARY OF C. C. A. ADDRESSES CONVENTION

A comprehensive report on the work of the Canadian Council of Agriculture was presented by J. W. Ward, Secretary of the Council, on Tuesday afternoon. Mr. Ward outlined the work of the Council, describing the action taken by the delegation which presented legislative demands to the Ottawa Government last year, and the important results obtained, such as reductions in the tariff, restoration of the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement, etc. Much attention had been given to transportation problems, upon which reports had been published during the year. The Secretary concluded with a reference to the recent mortgage conference. The report was received and a resolution was unanimously adopted thanking Mr. Ward for his services in presenting it.

PROPOSED CONSOLIDATION OF MEMBERSHIP DUES

Proposals to consolidate the Federal and Provincial Constituency Associations dues with those of the Locals and Central Office called forth very full discussion during the course of the Convention, the matter being raised on Tuesday by proposed constitutional amendments submitted by the Red Deer Federal Constituency Association and the Craigmyle District Association, and finally dealt with on Friday, when a substitute amendment by J. K. Sutherland was introduced and all the proposed amendments were rejected. The first two proposed amendments were distributed to the Locals before the Convention. Mr. Sutherland's motion proposed that the Central Board should prepare an amendment for consideration at the next Convention, to provide, first, that U. F. A. dues should be Local and Central dues, together with such Federal and Provincial Constituency dues as are necessary in the various constituencies, and further, that any member who might indicate his desire not to support any particular constituency activity should be allowed to indicate his desire on the stub of the receipt from his Local Secretary; and that the money which would otherwise have gone to the constituency should then be allocated either to the Local or to the general revenue of the U. F. A., at the discretion of the member.

Speaking on Tuesday, I. D. Taylor endorsed the principle of consolidation, supporting the Red Deer proposal that out of the total $3 now paid, $2 go to Central, and 50 cents to the Local, and 25 cents each to the Federal and Provincial Constituency Associations. Mr. Taylor said that his experience had convinced him that the present U. F. A. membership fee could not indefinitely remain as low as at present, but in view of the difficult situation prevailing in many parts of the Province, did not favor increasing the fee this year.

A delegate at this point objected to compulsory payments to the "political branch" of the organization causing Col. Robinson to ask, "Is the U. F. A. as an organization in politics?", the chairman, Robert Gardiner, resolving that the U. F. A. had taken political action.

Hector MacKenzie of Fairgrove Local called attention to the difficult situation which prevailed in his district, and remarked that even if consolidation meant the loss of a few disgruntled members, they would come to their senses later.

P. Bilwiller of Richdale said that there was not a Local that did not need its full dollar. It was desired to add the constituency dues to the existing amount.

(Continued on Page Eighteen)

PLAN TO PUBLISH WEEKLY DURING SESSION

In accordance with the recommendation of the Annual Convention, it is hoped that satisfactory arrangements may be made for the publication of weekly issues of "The U. F. A." during the forthcoming session of the Alberta Legislative Assembly.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Convention:

"We, the delegates of the United Farmers of Alberta in Annual Convention assembled, desire at this time to express our appreciation of the clear, concise and unbiased reports of the last session of the Legislature of the Province of Alberta contained in the special issues of our official organ, "The U. F. A.", and to recommend to the Board that provision be made for their continuance for the coming session."

Only Official Organ

The Convention also adopted the following with one dissentient:

"That "The U. F. A." be considered the only official organ of the Association."

A Brief Review of the Women's Convention

By Mrs. F. E. Wyman.

The evening session on Friday, January 22nd, 1925, brought to a close the Eleventh Annual Convention of the United Farm Women of Alberta with a program completed and all business of the Convention finished. The consensus of opinion was that this had been the most successful Convention in the history of the organization.

From the moment when they first stepped into the reception room to be greeted by a cordial hand clasp, both delegates and visitors alike felt at home, and throughout the week a most cordial spirit of friendliness and good will pervaded the whole Convention.

DELIGHTFUL FEATURE OF CONVENTION WEEK

One of the most delightful features of Convention Week is the greeting of old friends and the forming of new. "This is my first Convention, but it certainly will not be my last", was a comment heard more than once. Many of the delegates and some of the speakers and fraternal delegates who had come but for a day or two made arrangements to stay for the entire Convention.

The Conveners' Reports, which embodied the work and research of the year, were exceptionally interesting and instructive. The discussions which followed from the floor of the Convention were both keen and intelligent, covering every phase of the question under consideration.

The addresses of the speakers were of a high order and were thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated. A pleasing and relaxing feature was the community singing and solos interspersed throughout the sessions.

The smoothness shown in the carrying out of the program and the business of the Convention, although several situations arose which had not been contemplated, showed careful preparation as to detail and splendid executive ability.

"What I admire about your women", one of the speakers said to her friend, "is the poise and dignity with which they accommodate themselves to every situation." This faculty of adaptation to circumstances is fostered in every farm home.

Just as the wild rose which in most places grows to height and graceful beauty, adapts itself to the dazzling sun and sweeping winds of the prairie, coming out of the ground in one short stem with only one or two exquisite fragrant blossoms, just so do our farm women adapt themselves to the pioneer life of the farm. And in that adaptation some thrifty virtues are acquired, of which possibly they may not be aware, or upon which they place no particular value, but which are nevertheless recognized and honored by other women.

MEMORIES WHICH WILL REMAIN

A charming event was the presentation of a corsage of flowers to the past presidents, and to the president and vice-presidents upon their re-election. The thought so beautifully conveyed was that work done by members of the organization in any capacity should not go "unhonored or unsung". The flowers will perish, it is true, but their message in memory remains, and so will the word of appreciation remain in the heart.

The marvel of it all is that our farm women of every creed and nationality, with multitudinous cares, can come together from all sections of this spacious Province, and, laying aside all thought of self and personal problems, study amicably together the questions of education, legislative injustices and social problems.

This Convention not only marks a progress in our organized farm women's movement; it has also generated a spiritual force which must be felt in every part of the Province.

U. F. W. A. BOARD, 1925

Standing, left to right: Mrs. W. H. Bailey, Waterhole (Peace River, North); Mrs. A. E. Postans, Heath (Battle River); Mrs. R. Clarke Fraser, Robinson (Acadia); Mrs. A. B. Claypool, Swalwell (Bow River); Mrs. Winnifred Ross, Millet (Wetaskiwin); Mrs. H. E. G. H. Schenfield, Crossfield (East and West Calgary); Mrs. S. J. Bentley, N. Edmonton (East and West Edmonton); Mrs. O'Neil, Claresholm (Macleod); Mrs. Argus Baker, Medicine Hat (Medicine Hat).

Sitting, left to right: Mrs. W. D. McNaughton, Ranfurly (Vegreville); Mrs. A. H. Warr, Waskatenau (Athabasca); Mrs. J. W. Field, Wildwater (Second Vice-President); Mrs. R. B. Gunn, New Lindsay (President); Mrs. F. E. Wyman, Balzress (First Vice-President); Mrs. C. Jensen, Magrath (Lethbridge); Mrs. E. H. Ethridge, Remington (Peace River, South); Mrs. R. Price, Stettler (Red Deer), was not present.

Strict Adherence to Business Principles Essential to Success in Co-operative Marketing, Declares President Wood in Ninth Annual Address

U. F. A. the Mother Organization of All Farmer Enterprises in Alberta—U. F. A. Plan of Political Action Is Not for Purpose of Gaining Power With Which to Dominate—President Discusses Basis of Co-operation With Urban Interests

In his Ninth Annual Address, which is printed in this section, President Wood reviewed at length the progress which has been made in Co-operative Marketing, and indicated the lines along which he believed success could be assured. He declared that the soundness of the pooling system having been accepted, the sole problem now lies in its practical application. Discussing political affairs, the President stated that the political movement was inseparable from the Mother Organization and could not live without it. Speaking of the position of the U. F. A., he concluded, "On the whole, I do not think the membership of any organization ever came through so crucial a test and held so true."

A year ago the farmers of Alberta had threshed and were selling the largest crop, especially of wheat, that had ever been produced in the Province. While the 1923 wheat was sold at somewhat higher prices than was expected, the average price was much below the level of prices producers had to pay for all commodities that entered into production, including freight, interest, taxes and labor. The prices of other farm products were even lower than that of wheat. This wrong relationship of prices between what the farmer sells and what he has to buy had been even greater during the three previous years. This, coupled with the fact that the seasons had been indifferent, and crops very bad in many districts, had placed a financial burden on the Alberta farmers from which the magnificent crop of 1923 could give only the most temporary relief. However, it did give temporary relief and corresponding encouragement. Store accounts, interest, taxes, and other indebtedness were partially liquidated, and farmers all undertook their 1924 operations with more zeal and hope than for several previous years. The results of these operations were very different in different sections.

CONDITIONS OF 1924 DIFFICULT TO ANALYZE

Perhaps no year since the beginning of the organized efforts of the Alberta farmers has brought about conditions harder to analyze and estimate at their true significance than the year 1924. Climatic causes have produced results in certain sections covering large areas, that seem to be putting the final test on human endurance. The financial distress resulting from these conditions has not only unsettled and driven out many families, but the effects have reached out into all the organized efforts of the farmers of Alberta, and even extended their baneful influence to all other legitimate interests of the Province. In many districts the situation has become so serious that it would seem that man, in conflict with the elements, is waging a losing fight.

Wherever natural conditions are such that man cannot adjust himself to them on a co-operative basis, he can not hope to win. The great problem is to know just where and how these adjustments can be made. Perhaps they can be satisfactorily made in practically all the areas under consideration, but at the present time we do not know just how. That these conditions present a serious problem all will admit, and no serious minded citizen will fail to recognise his personal interest in its correct solution.

PRESIDENT WOOD

I regret that I am unable to offer a practical solution or to hold out a lively hope in any solution that has been offered. One thing seems certain, and that is that we have no scientific knowledge on which we can base a hope that we can influence nature to adjust itself to meet our needs, so we can only succeed in so far as we can adjust ourselves to its known habits and conditions.

On the other hand, nature dealt more kindly with other districts, though these did not cover such large areas. The result was that these districts produced from fair to very good crops. As prices of all cereals are in better relation with prices of what the farmer has to buy than they have been for several years, farmers in these favored districts will be able to strengthen their financial position more this year than they did last. So we find that while Alberta only produced about one-third as much wheat as in 1923, a very large proportion of it was produced on much less than half the wheat growing area. This is more or less true of other cereals.

This brings about a condition under which a minority of the farmers will come nearer to prospering than they have since 1918, while the majority will lose all or more than they gained last year. Those who have fair crops, on account of better prices will put more money in the channels of trade than they did last year. On the other hand, at least half the farmers will have to reduce their expenditure to the irreducible minimum. While trade will have some fairly good support, that support cannot be normal, and trade will suffer generally, especially in the more unfortunate districts. Fortunately, what seems to be an increasing number are seeing that industry as a whole cannot maintain prosperity when agricultural stagnation has become chronic. But it is unfortunate that so many fail to see that agriculture cannot prosper when the prices of agricultural products remain for any length of time too far out of proper relation with prices of other commodities. In an endeavor to establish better and more stable relationship of prices farmers everywhere are turning to co-operative marketing of their products.

PROGRESS IN CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING

A year ago the farmers of Alberta had just embarked on an effort to market their wheat co-operatively. For several years the farmers' organizations of the three Prairie Provinces had been considering this method of marketing

farm products, and efforts had been made to organize a Wheat Pool, but the first practical operation of such a Pool in Western Canada was begun in Alberta on October 29th, 1923.

This was late in the selling season to begin operations; the world's supply of wheat was above normal; the Canadian crop was the greatest ever harvested; the Pool had been hurriedly organized, and had no selling connections. The management of the Pool had no one to turn to for reliable advice and guidance in the practical operation of this new system of selling. Under these circumstances the most that could be reasonably hoped for was to avoid disaster, get established, and demonstrate the feasibility of the Pool system. All of these things were accomplished and a substantial margin of profit distributed to the grower members.

Before the beginning of the selling of the 1924 crop Saskatchewan and Manitoba had succeeded in getting the required sign-up of contracts and perfecting Provincial organizations. The three Provinces proceeded with the organization of an Inter-Provincial Pool with a combined membership of about 90,000 growers, representing approximately 11,000,000 acres of wheat. This larger Pool is now in operation with conditions and prospects favorable to a successful year's operations.

TESTING TIME OF THE POOL SYSTEM

The testing time of the Pool system of selling agricultural products has come. What we have done so far seems good; the principles seem sound, the growers seem to be earnestly behind the movement with faith in its success, and practical experiences so far seem to warrant the hope that it is in us. But the system is not yet established. On the contrary, we have just started and have yet a long road ahead of us to final success. In the process of development every weak point will become manifest, and a breakdown at one point might cause a collapse of the whole enterprise. But perhaps before trying to analyze our weaknesses we had better deal briefly with our strength, as strength is the foundation on which to build, while weakness is a thing to be avoided or overcome.

In the first place, in order to succeed, the principles of co-operative marketing must be sound. This is of the greatest importance, as it is the very foundation of the enterprise. On this foundation our superstructure must be built, but no superstructure, however wisely built, can endure after the foundation has crumbled. We have examined these principles most carefully and critically and believe them sound. They have stood the test of the criticism of reactionaries and those whose personal interests are opposed to co-operative marketing. In fact, every hostile attack that has been made on them seems only to magnify their strength.

The commodity to be marketed belongs to the producers who are marketing it. They are not engaged in trade—buying and selling—but have only to sell that which belongs to them. This puts them in a very strong position, provided there is a legitimate and real demand for their product. In the case of wheat this demand is real and world-wide.

But it is objected that wheat is a world-wide product and the output is so enormous that a Pool, even though a large one, can have little or no real selling strength. Against this we know that an individual has no selling strength on the world's wheat market, and we have demonstrated that even a small Pool has. As the system grows Pools will increase, membership multiply, and strength increase, till the wheat of the world will be sold under that system. Then will the producers of wheat have at least as much efficiency in dealing with the price as the buyer has.

All this might seem to indicate that there are no weak points to deal with and no danger to fear, but we must not forget that so far we have only been dealing with the principles, and while these principles may be, and I believe are, absolutely sound, they will remain useless unless they can be put into practical operation. To put them into practical operation depends on the ability of those directly interested to do a really big, practical, new thing in a thoroughly practical business way. This, in my opinion, is where the danger lies, and this danger is real. Are we big and practical enough to do the work that is before us?

PRACTICAL APPLICATION THE ONLY PROBLEM

Assuming, then, that our theory is right, and that the only problem before us is putting the scheme into practical operation and developing it to stability and perfection, this problem should be faced with all earnestness. It will be disastrous to shut our eyes against difficulties and depend entirely on blind zeal and enthusiasm. Perhaps the most disastrous thing possible would be to assume our own hopeless stupidity and ask for a superman to carry on this great work for us. This is the people's work and the people must do it or it will never be done. The very fact that the scheme calls for mass-action, mass-mobilization and mass-development is one of its strongest points of recommendation. Hired skill and hired advice we must have, but the ruling, guiding force must be the people, the developed "Common Sense of Most."

The wheat growers of the world produce approximately three and one-half billion bushels of wheat annually, thereby supplying the bread needs of the consuming world. It has taken five thousand years for the growers to develop this producing efficiency, but in all that time they have developed no efficiency in selling their product. During all that time we have no record of the world's wheat crop being intelligently sold by the producers. It is true that we have record of one North American crop having been intelligently sold for the producers, but not by the producers. They are just now trying to begin the inauguration of intelligent, systematic selling of their own product. This is a great undertaking, but not impossible. Surely we can not so exaggerate our inherent inefficiency as to think it impossible. Neither are we justified in so emphasizing that inefficiency as to think it will take as long to develop efficient selling as it has to develop efficient production, but he is stupid indeed who does not recognize the serious difficulties in the undertaking.

SYSTEM OF SELLING PURELY BUSINESS UNDERTAKING

While the development of a co-operative system of selling the world's crop of wheat is a great undertaking it is a purely business one. To succeed means that we will at all times have to adhere to strict business principles and business methods. We must begin at the beginning, and develop solidarity step by step as we proceed. As a house is built up from the foundation, so must our system be built from basic things up to an all inclusive whole. The one great basic idea in our enterprise is better selling. That is the enterprise itself, and all things else are subsidiary and detail. In order to get in position to sell we had to mobilize a sufficient quantity of wheat and perfect organization for that purpose. This has been done and selling has already begun.

But selling involves many other things. It involves the establishment of connections throughout the wheat buying world. We have no reason to complain of the progress that has been made so far in this matter. It also involves finances, but I am glad to say that so far we have had little difficulty in this matter, and, if we continue to observe strict business precaution in keeping our security on a safe and sound basis, we have nothing to fear.

It also involves handling facilities, and while we, especially in Alberta, have been able to deal with this matter as satisfactorily as we had any reason to hope, the problem is by no means finally solved, nor is the final solution yet in sight. This is the most difficult, and perhaps the most dangerous secondary problem that is yet in sight. It is difficult for several reasons, principal among which are:

First, these facilities are already in existence, but belong to interests that are identified with the old selling system, and, very naturally, they do not feel very kindly toward handling Pool wheat that is going through a different system. It could hardly be expected that these two interests could make permanent working arrangements that would be entirely satisfactory to both, though I feel that I would not be doing justice to the Alberta elevator interests if I did not express appreciation of the spirit in which they have tried to deal with these problems.

ACQUIREMENT OF HANDLING FACILITIES

The second great difficulty is met with when we undertake to acquire our own facilities. This will unavoidably involve a tremendous outlay of capital, either in construction or purchase. And in either event it would involve the working out of a system of financing that would be perfectly fair and satisfactory to all members from the smallest to the greatest. It would also involve the inauguration of an elevator handling system in addition to our selling organization, which is not yet thoroughly established and stabilized as it should be. The one thing that stands out clearly in my mind is that this problem should be dealt with in the most careful, practical business way. Not with timid fear that prevents action and arrests progress, nor yet with reckless haste to get quick action though it endanger the success of the whole enterprise. In this, to my mind, is an element of real danger, and it grows out of what is the greatest potential strength of the Pool movement; viz. popular control.

The Canadian Co-operative Wheat Producers are divided into three Provincial units, and composed of ninety thousand members. Each member in each Province has an equal voice in the control of Provincial Pool affairs. They are

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Solidarity of Legislative Group Affirmed, Following Conference of Members

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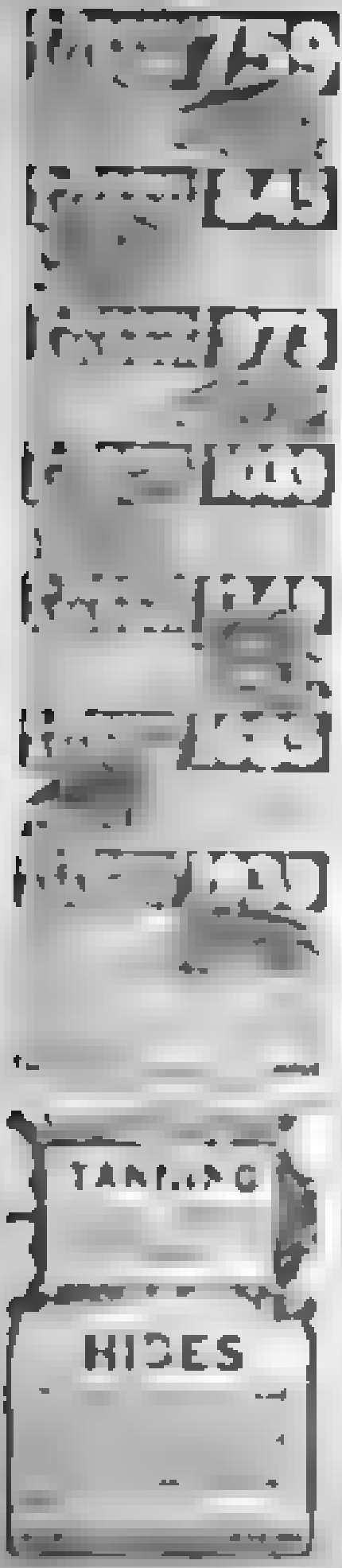

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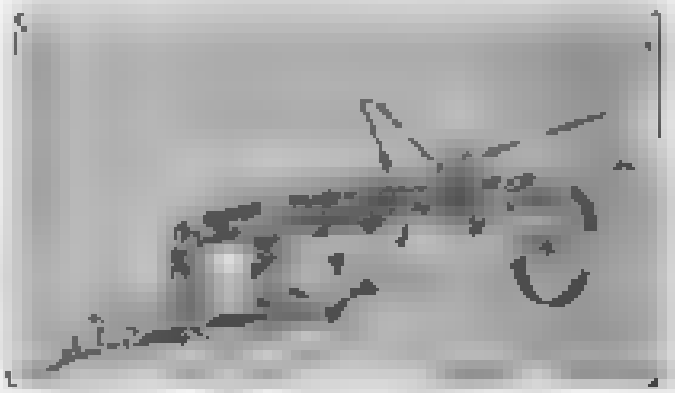

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LUMBER

The United Farm Women of Alberta in Eleventh Annual Convention

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Fraser said in part that the objects of the Junior organization were threefold: to train for citizenship, to train for leadership, and to follow more definitely the quadruple plan of educational, vocational, economic and social development. Mrs. Fraser appealed to the members present to aid in the organization of Junior Locals, and not to shirk the responsibility of acting as supervisors.

The report was followed by an interesting discussion on the problems existing in some of the Locals with regard to the carrying on of the young people's work.

Miss E. Brenner delighted the Convention with two vocal selections, "The

Mrs. J. W. FIELD
Re-elected Second Vice-President U.F.W.A.

Swallows" and "Danny Boy". Mrs. Schofield accompanied her on the piano.

The Junior Conference

Mrs. W. Ross, Convener of the Resolutions Committee, presented the following resolution:

"Whereas, the present date of the Junior Conference interferes with many young people, who are preparing for examinations and cannot leave their studies to attend Conference;

"Resolved, that the date of the Young People's Conference be changed from June to July."

Miss Montgomery was called upon to make a short explanation as to why it was not possible for the University to have the University Week for Farm Young People held in July. Mrs. Fraser also read a letter received from Mr. A. E. Ottewell with regard to this matter, in which Mr. Ottewell pointed out that the only other time when the young people could hold their Conference would be the week commencing August 10th. As this date would interfere with the harvest, the resolution was tabled.

Educational Questions

After the singing of "The Maple Leaf Forever" on Wednesday morning, the report on Education was presented by the convener, Mrs. Winnifred Ross. This is a very vital subject with the farm women of the Province and elicits much interest. Hon. Perren Baker, Minister of Education, was on the plat-

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1924	$[illegible]	$[illegible]	$[illegible]	$[illegible]

PROTECTION FOR POLICYHOLDERS

Amount on deposit with Governments	$[illegible]
Reserve for Protection of Policyholders	$[illegible]
Assets, 91.27% interest bearing	$[illegible]
Surplus	$[illegible]

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J. R. BROWNLEE, Provincial Secretary.
E. TROWBRIDGE, Deputy Provincial Secretary.

form and took part in the discussion following the report.

The Convener of Education introduced the following resolutions:

"That one or more municipal school districts be established to test out the feasibility of the plan, or failing this that more inspectors be appointed."

Upon Mr. Baker's statement that it would be necessary to supplement present legislation to carry out this resolution, Mrs. Ross withdrew her resolution and substituted the following motion:

"That enabling legislation be enacted whereby municipalities may of themselves create municipal schools where they so desire."

This resolution was tabled until O. P. Chipman, Editor of the Grain Growers' Guide, who had recently served on a commission in Manitoba dealing with this matter, had an opportunity to speak to the Convention. Mr. Chipman addressed the Convention Thursday morning, answering a number of questions relative to same. On Friday evening the resolution was taken from the table and the following resolution submitted and carried.

"1. That the matter of municipal schools be referred to the Locals for their study and consideration during the year."

"2. That some means be devised to keep before the public current information along educational lines."

After some discussion the question was referred to the Convener of Education for further consideration and action in order to get information before our Locals.

Another resolution adopted asked "that provision be made for the needs of Women on the petition of delegates."

(To be continued)

EDITORIAL

(Continued from page 1)

"The professional economist has little to offer or to say at present troubles, for he has become to a great extent a mouthpiece of the social trends originated by minds more vital than his own. The theological 'be good sweet maid, and let who will be clever', has been transformed into the economic 'sweat hard, good man, and let who will be prosperous'."—G. H. Wrenham, M.A. (Oxford), in "The Solution of Unemployment", a recent work on the causes of depression reviewed by "The U. F. A." for review.

The causes of depression in manufacturing and in agriculture are, ultimately, the same. Mr. Wrenham contends that the root of both evils is to be found in our financial system and those of our readers who are interested in the subject will find his work stimulating and enlightening. He regards the financial power whose chief centre is now in the United States, as the greatest potential danger to world peace.

* * *

To speak in Canada of the necessity for the revision of the Versailles Treaty as a first step towards a tolerable peace, is still regarded in many quarters as "unpatriotic", or worse. Even in Great Britain, when the Right Hon. Arthur Henderson spoke of this necessity at the time of the formation of the Labor Government, he was, in an indirect manner, rebuked by his chief. Recovery from the post-war mentality of 1918 is slow, but it is proceeding in some quarters from which it might be least expected.

Here, for instance, is the Observer, one of the most influential of moderately conservative British weeklies, declaring that "either Europe will agree to revision or Europe will fight over revision", rebuking those to whom "it is irreligion to speak of the League of Nations, so far as it pat exists, in any language but that of obsequious and undiscriminating reverence", and assuring that "on the great question of peace or war, which brought the idea of a world league into being, it has not laid and cannot lay a finger."

The establishment of a genuine League of Free Peoples is essential to the future of civilization. But a League of this character will never be brought into being by ignoring the vital defects of the existing League. Such action would merely serve to create a fool's paradise.

POULTRY

DOMINION GOVERNMENT INSPECTED and banded Barred Rock Cockerels from Record of Performance hens, 170 to 208 egg records; $10 each. Also some choice cockerels from same pens, but unbanded, $5 and $7. Pedigrees furnished. C. N. Browne, DeWinton, Alberta.

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